

I am writing to you to express my grave concern regarding a community leader U Sein Than who has been imprisoned for participating in a series of peaceful protests.

I call on you and other authorities to release him immediately and unconditionally and drop all charges pending against him as a result of his peaceful exercise of his rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

I also call on you to ensure that, pending his unconditional release, U Sein Than is not tortured or otherwise ill-treated, that he is granted access to lawyers of his choosing and to family members, and that he is held in conditions which meet international standards.

I would like to urge you to repeal or else amend all laws which restrict the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, to comply with international human rights law and standards.

Your attention on these matters would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,